



August 1-7, 2005 is World Breastfeeding Week.

To find out more about the breastfeeding practices of Louisiana mothers please refer to the data below collected by the Louisiana PRAMS project.

According PRAMS 2000-2001* data:

- 60.7% of white women and 29.3% of black women initiate breastfeeding in Louisiana.
- Three main reasons** for non-initiation are:
 - “Did not like breastfeeding”
 - “Had other children to take care of”
 - “Went back to work or school”
- Among women who initiate breastfeeding, the percent of white and black women breastfeeding at the first, third and sixth months is:

	White	Black
○ First month:	78.2	80.2
○ Third month:	52.2	50.0
○ Sixth month:	34.0	26.6
- The main reasons for breastfeeding cessation during the first month are contained in the table below:

Table 1: Percent ceasing breastfeeding among those who ceased BF in the first month by race and reason

Reasons		White	Black
1 st month	Difficulty nursing	36.2	42.3
	Milk not satisfying baby	30.5	24.2
	Sore, cracked, bleeding nipples	26.8	33.1
	Breast milk insufficiency	34.6	18.2

* Data represent the total number of live births for years 2000-2001, 129,657.

** respondents chose among available response options